

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A combination punching and setting tool, comprising:

a) an elongate body, having an upper impact end, and a lower attachment end; and

5 b) at least one interchangeable tip, interchangeably received on the attachment

end, the interchangeable tip being selected from the group consisting of i) a punching tip configured to punch an opening in a base material, and ii) a setting tip configured to set a securing device placed in an opening in the base material.

10 2. A tool in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a base material, and wherein the base material is selected from the group consisting of paper, card stock, and photographs.

15 3. A tool in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a securing device, and wherein the securing device is selected from the group consisting of an eyelet, a rivet, and a grommet.

4. A tool in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a securing device, and wherein the securing device comprises an eyelet, configured to be placed in a hole formed in the base material, and wherein the eyelet can be set around the hole in the base material by the combination tool.

20 5. A tool in accordance with claim 1, wherein the setting tip further comprises a raised pattern disposed on the tip, configured to create a corresponding pattern on the securing device upon setting the securing device.

6. A tool in accordance with claim 5, wherein the raised pattern is selected from the group consisting of geometric designs, pictures, alphanumeric characters, symbols, and logos.

5 7. A tool in accordance with claim 1, wherein the setting tip further comprises a sharp blade disposed on the tip, configured to score or cut the securing device upon setting the securing device.

10 8. A tool in accordance with claim 1, wherein the elongate body further comprises an ejection chute, formed in the body, and configured to allow base material punched by the punching tip to be ejected out of the elongate body.

15 9. A tool in accordance with claim 1, wherein the at least one interchangeable tip further comprises a plurality of punching tips, each tip having a cutting orifice configured to cut a hole in a base material, a size of a cutting orifice in each tip being different than a size of a cutting orifice in alternate tips.

20 10. A tool in accordance with claim 1, further comprising mating screw threads on the attachment end of the body and on the at least one interchangeable tip, the respective screw threads being configured to enable selective, threadable coupling of the at least one interchangeable tip to the body.

11. A tool in accordance with claim 10, further comprising a shoulder on the interchangeable tip, having a shape configured to facilitate attachment to and removal from the attachment end of the body.

5 12. A tool in accordance with claim 11, wherein the shoulder has a shape selected from the group consisting of hexagonal and octagonal.

13. A tool in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a knurled grasping portion disposed on the elongate body near the upper impact end.

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14. A setting tool for setting a securing device, comprising:

- a) an elongate body having an upper impact end and a lower end;
- b) at least one setting tip, configured to contact the securing device to set it in a hole in a base material; and
- c) a raised pattern, formed on a lower end of the setting tip, the tip being configured to strike and set the securing device, and to form a corresponding pattern in the securing device once set; and
- d) the tool being configured to be struck at the impact end to drive the setting tip onto the securing device to set the securing device in the base material.

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15. A setting tool in accordance with claim 14, wherein the setting tip is interchangeably attached to the lower end of the elongate body; and further comprising attachment means,

disposed on a top of the setting tip and on the lower end of the elongate body for attaching the setting tip to the elongate body.

16. A setting tool in accordance with claim 14, further comprising a punching tip,

5 interchangeably received on the attachment end of the elongate body, having a cutting orifice configured to cut a hole in a base material when the cutting orifice is placed upon the base material and the impact end of the elongate body is struck to drive the cutting orifice into the base material.

10 17. A setting tool in accordance with claim 16, further comprising an ejection chute, disposed in the elongate body, configured to allow base material punched by the punching tip to be ejected out of the elongate body.

18. A method for fastening at least two mediums of a scrapbook or photo album,

15 comprising the steps of:

a) forming corresponding holes in the at least two mediums, the at least two mediums being selected from the group consisting of scrapbook pages, photo album pages, photos, and decorative paper;

b) aligning the holes in the at least two mediums;

20 c) disposing an eyelet through the holes in the at least two mediums;

d) placing a setting tip against a top of the eyelet; and

e) striking an upper impact end of an elongate body attached to the setting tip to deform the upper end of the eyelet.

19. A method in accordance with claim 18, wherein the step of placing a setting tip further includes placing a setting tip with a raised pattern against the top of the eyelet; and wherein the step of striking sets the eyelet and creates a corresponding pattern of the raised 5 pattern on the eyelet.

20. A method in accordance with claim 18, wherein the step of forming corresponding holes further includes the steps of:

- a) placing a punching tip against at least one of the mediums; and
- 10 b) striking an upper impact end of an elongate body attached to the punching tip to drive the punching tip through the at least one medium.

21. A method in accordance with claim 18, further comprising the steps of:

- a) attaching an interchangeable punching tip to an elongate body prior to forming the holes in the mediums;
- 15 b) removing the punching tip from the elongate body after forming the holes in the mediums; and
- c) attaching the setting tip to the elongate body prior to placing the setting tip against the top of the eyelet.